

succulent reeds. The Quaker Bridge road traverses this body of fine land.

The coasts of Onslow are lined with the "Banks," from which they are separated by sounds of from a half a mile to two miles in width, and of depth only navigable for small vessels. Through these banks, generally opposite a stream making out from the mainland, there is a break or inlet, with a shifting bar of from three to nine feet deep, and through this give access to the inner waters. Within the bars and up these streams is the great store of fish and oysters now engaging public attention and the care of legislation. The finest oysters on the continent are found here.

The soil of Onslow is productive in cotton, corn, peas, potatoes, and is especially favorable to the perfection of the ground-pea or peanut, which, in the decomposed shelly soils in the vicinity of the coast, claims the chief attention of the farmers and constitutes the most profitable crop.

The Wilmington, New Bern & Norfolk railroad connects the county with both Wilmington and New Bern.

Jacksonville, the county seat, contains 400 inhabitants and Richlands 200.

New river, lying almost wholly in the county, is perhaps the largest river in proportion to its length in the world, and is a stream of exceptional beauty among the eastern waters. Along it and its tributaries are fine bodies of pine and hard woods, and at Jacksonville, is located the large plant of the Parmele-Eccleston Lumber Co., one of the most complete equipments to be found in the State, with a daily capacity of some 125,000 feet. A few miles down the river from Jacksonville is the Glenoe Model Farm of Mr. Thomas McIntyre; this is a charming location and presents most vividly the possibilities of development for that whole region.

Onslow county has 320,439 acres of land valued at \$975,493; and 183 town lots, valued at \$60,810.

Of domestic animals there are—874 horses; 722 mules; 381 goats; 7,170 cattle; 19,550 hogs; 4,504 sheep.

Product of taxation—for State use, \$3,318.56; pensions, \$695.95; school, 5,933.29; county, \$7,997.25.

Population—white, 7,392; colored, 2,911; total, 10,303.

ORANGE.

Orange county, historically, is one of the most interesting counties in the State. It was formed about the year 1752, and its healthfulness and the richness of its soil soon made it populous and prosperous. It took a very decided part in the troubles that led to Tryon's suppression of the opposition of the Regulators, and also in the war of the Revolution. It was in this county that Lord Cornwallis prepared himself for the struggle at Guilford Court House; and it was at its county seat (Hillsboro) that the convention to discuss the Constitution submitted to the States for ratification was held; and for generations the county was noted for the prominence of its public men.